

The RAYMOND RECORDER HISTORY OF RAYMOND

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S. J. WEAVER, Editor

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LOOKING BACKWARD TO 1903

RAYMOND'S FIRST NEWSPAPER "THE RAYMOND CHRONICLE"

George E. Court has among his souvenirs of pioneer days, the first newspaper published in Raymond, Volume 1, Number 1, dated March 24, 1903. Its dimensions are 15 x 18. This first town paper though small, contains many interesting articles which carry one back over the years to perhaps the most outstanding period of activities among the first settlers of Raymond.

The articles to follow are excerpts from this first paper edited by R. D. Matheson:

INTRODUCTORY

"For the presence of The Chronicle in Raymond there is small need for any lengthy explanation. In the district of which this place is the centre are three rapidly growing towns and upwards of three thousand people, to which population a steady immigration is adding rapidly, furnishing a field for a local journal which we are on the ground to fill.

To serve the towns of Raymond, Magrath and Stirling, which have common interests is the program which we have set before ourselves and to this municipal trio we look for the support necessary for the issuing of a newspaper that will represent their views, devote itself to advancing their cause and rustling for their business."

"The cultivation of sugar beets and the manufacture of beet sugar above everything else, will be the occupation of the people of this portion of Alberta. The peculiar suitability of the district for the industry resulting in the formation of the Knight Sugar Company, a corporation composed of some of Utah's wealthiest citizens, to develop this industry, and the acquiring of immense tract of land here by them, is the cause of Raymond's being, and has had a great effect in stimulating the growth of other neighboring towns.

In May, 1901, Mr. Jesse Knight and Apostle John W. Taylor visited Southern Alberta looking for ranching land. On that trip this district was visited and the prospect for the successful culture of sugar beets impressed itself so forcibly upon Mr. Knight that, after spending four days in the vicinity of where this town is now located, he deposited \$50,000 as a guarantee that a beet sugar factory would be put up provided certain conditions were complied with by the Irrigation and Railway companies then interested in the development of the district.

These conditions were fulfilled to the letter and the factory is now well under way and will be pushed rapidly forward toward completion. Thus in short, was the conception of Raymond, the two companies mentioned, the Canadian Government and its officials and the people already in the neighborhood giving Mr. Knight every encouragement to found here a colony of people from Utah."

"The official and directors' list of the Knight Sugar Company includes some of the wealthiest and most influential of Utah's citizens, whose names are guarantee that what is planned to be done will be done. These are: President, Jesse Knight;

By ELIZABETH KING



vice-president and general manager E. P. Ellison; secretary, George W. Green, Treasurer, J. Wm. Knight; directors, Joseph P. Smith; John H. Winder; Thomas R. Cutler; Raymond Knight; David Eccles. The field superintendent, who will have in charge, the overseeing of the beet culture is T. J. O'Brien."

"HELLO CENTRAL"

At the present time the Bell Telephone Company is showing great activity in extending their service among Western towns, being spurred on to action by the formulating of several local companies, who would encroach on what the Bell people consider their own particular reserve in this activity Raymond, Magrath and Stirling will benefit as the company intends in a very short time to install local and long distance systems in these towns.

In a letter received last week by R. H. McBuffee from J. E. Bull, the District manager of the Bell Telephone Company at Calgary, the welcome news comes that matters along this line are proceeding merily."

"THE DAY WE CELEBRATE"

Although the Chinook has been delayed beyond the time limit and the beautiful blankets the prairie in all directions, the thought of this summer's celebration has already begun agitating the minds of many of Raymond's citizens and plans have begun to shape themselves for Dominion Day. Preparations for placing Victoria park, reserved from the town-site on the east side, in proper shape and laying out and preparing the race track, are being made and so soon as Jack Frost leaves the neighborhood the surveyor, ploughman and leveler will get to work. A neubulous program has been presented which includes broncho riding, roping and racing, with a series of athletic games and a dance. Neighbortowns are therefore requested to keep off the grass on Dominion day."



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AMA MAKES APPEAL FOR SAFE DRIVING

When it is realized that 1,400 persons were injured last year in motor accidents in Alberta, there is need for greater promotion of safety measures, in the opinion of officials of the Alberta Motor Association.

Between April 1 and December 31 of last year, 53 persons were killed in motor accidents on highways of this province. Official figures for the present year are not available but it is feared that the total still is alarming and calls for vigorous safety education.

The A.M.A. in various ways is carrying the message of safe driving to the public. With the growing holiday traffic volume, drivers are urged to "take it easy."

Nevertheless, reports of the fatal accidents at level railway crossings continue to spell tragedy and sorrow for the family, relatives and friends of victims.

The R.C.M.P. is playing a useful role in this situation by continuing to check on headlights of cars. Surveys in the U.S. have disclosed that headlight glare is the No. 1 enemy of safe driving.

Showing of safety films in different parts of the province also provide another valuable aid in fighting the careless and reckless driving menace.

New Dayton

Mrs. L. McTighe and son Patrick returned home after spending the past few days in Lethbridge.

Mrs. C. Pittman and son Robert and daughter Chumy have returned home after spending the past week visiting friends in Raymond.

Mrs. Faye Cuzner and son and daughter of Wrentham spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Rex Cahoon.

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Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Wozak and daughter Ann and Mr. and Mrs. Don Christensen returned after spending the past week in Waterton.

Mr. and Mrs. Hal Meldrum of Salt Lake City are visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Bart Meldrum.

Mr. Warne Erickson of Stirling was a guest of Mr. Stewart Newman. Mr. Glen Hale, Harry Gorrill and Stewart Skeith have returned after spending the past week in Waterton.

Mrs. Glenna Gorrill returned to her work after her holiday at her home here.

Mrs. Albert Beaton is home from the Galt Hospital where she has been a patient.

Mrs. E. Lundberg and daughter Sonja and son David of California are visiting with Mr. and Mrs. J. Cress and family. They plan to leave for their home about September 1st. Mr. and Mrs. A. Kurtz and daughter (continued on back page.)



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